

Amendment under 37 CFR §1.111
Serial No. 09/400,833
Attorney Docket No. 991059

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (previously presented): A machine including a workpiece-transfer device as in Claim 20, wherein the product and material-housing sections have a total length in the second horizontal direction not exceeding that of the said workpiece-machining device in the second horizontal direction.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A machine including a workpiece-transfer device as in Claim 20, wherein the rectangular coordinate movement means moves said traveling body to said product and material-housing sections so that said traveling body can be moved to position and load a material workpiece gripped by the gripping means of said traveling body, relative to a positioning member of said workpiece-machining device.

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Claims 4-18 (cancelled)

Claim 19 (previously presented): A machine including a workpiece-transfer device as in Claim 20, wherein said workpiece-storage device includes a skeleton-housing section in parallel with said second direction and on a side of the material-housing section opposed to said product-housing section.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A machine including a workpiece-transfer device for transferring a material workpiece and a machined product workpiece between a workpiece-machining device and a workpiece-storage device, the workpiece-transfer device loading the material workpiece on the workpiece-machining device and unloading the machined product workpiece from the workpiece-machining device, comprising:

a traveling body;

a gripping means provided on the traveling body for gripping the material workpiece and the machined product workpiece; and

a rectangular coordinate movement means for moving the traveling body in a first horizontal direction in which the workpiece-machining device and the workpiece-storage device are located in a line, and in a second horizontal direction orthogonal to the first horizontal direction, wherein the traveling body can be moved simultaneously in the first and second directions;

wherein said workpiece-storage device is provided with a product-housing section for

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stacking the machined product workpiece and a material-housing section for stacking the material workpiece, the product-housing section being located parallel to the material-housing section, wherein both of the product-housing section and the material-housing section are arranged in the second horizontal direction, wherein said traveling body is moved simultaneously and above the product-housing section and the material-housing section on the workpiece-storage device, [[and]] wherein the workpiece-machining device comprises a machining section, a table and a workpiece-feeding device for feeding a workpiece from the table to the machining section, wherein the workpiece-transfer device loads or unloads the workpiece on or from the table of the workpiece-machining device.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A machine, comprising:

(i) a workpiece-machining device for machining a material workpiece into a machined product workpiece, comprising:

a machining section;

a table; and

a workpiece-feeding device for feeding a workpiece to the machining section;

and

(ii) a workpiece-storage device, comprising:

a product-housing section for stacking the machined product workpiece;

a material-housing section for stacking the material workpiece;

a traveling body;

a gripping means provided on the traveling body for gripping the material workpiece and the machined product workpiece, wherein the gripping means loads or unloads the material workpiece and the machined product workpiece on or from the table of the workpiece-machining device; and

a rectangular coordinate movement means for moving the traveling body in a first horizontal direction in which the workpiece-machining device and the workpiece-storage device are located in a line, and in a second horizontal direction orthogonal to the first horizontal direction, wherein the traveling body is moved simultaneously in the first and second directions.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A machine according to claim 21, wherein the workpiece-feeding device comprises a rail provided along the second horizontal direction, a carriage running on the rail, and a cross slide provided on the carriage such that the carriage is moved in the first horizontal direction.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A machine according to claim 21, wherein the workpiece-storage device further comprises a skeleton-housing section for stacking a skeleton after the machining.

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Claim 24 (previously presented): A machine according to claim 23, wherein the skeleton-housing section is located in the second horizontal direction.

Claims 25-30 (cancelled)

Claim 31 (previously presented): A machine according to claim 20, wherein the workpiece-feeding device comprises a rail provided along the second horizontal direction, a carriage running on the rail, and a cross slide provided on the carriage such that the carriage is moved in the first horizontal direction.

Claim 32 (new): A machine according to claim 20, wherein the workpiece-storage device is located at the side of the workpiece-machining device.

Claim 33 (new): A machine according to claim 20, wherein the workpiece-storage device is located at the side of the workpiece-machining device with a small interval.

Claim 34 (new): A machine according to claim 21, wherein the workpiece-storage device is located at the side of the workpiece-machining device.

Claim 35 (new): A machine according to claim 21, wherein the workpiece-storage device is located at the side of the workpiece-machining device with a small interval.